

Amendment to HB 690-FN

1 Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:

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3 1 New Section; Department of Energy Investigation. Amend RSA 12-P by inserting after section
4 16 the following new section:

5 12-P:17 Investigation. The department of energy shall conduct an investigation into the state of
6 New Hampshire's withdrawal from ISO New England and other strategies to assure that New
7 Hampshire ratepayers do not pay for public policy initiatives of other New England states, including
8 environmental policies, in a manner that is unjust and unreasonable. It shall be funded by an
9 assessment in accordance with RSA 365:37.

10 I. This investigation shall answer the following questions:

11 (a) What are the current rights and obligations of ISO New England? Which
12 responsibilities, currently held by ISO New England, could New Hampshire meet on its own through
13 state agencies, utilities, or otherwise?

14 (b) Have other states, or utilities in other states, or both, left or considered leaving ISO
15 New England or any other regional transmission organization? What has been the result of such
16 initiatives?

17 (c) What new capabilities would state government and/or utilities need to develop if New
18 Hampshire were no longer participating in ISO New England?

19 (d) What are the costs and benefits to New Hampshire of leaving ISO New England?
20 Would the state and its electric ratepayers suffer economically inefficient outcomes as a result,
21 including exit fees, duplication of investments or costs, or operational redundancies?

22 (e) What effect would exiting ISO New England have on the reliability of the bulk power
23 transmission system serving New Hampshire?

24 (f) What are the benefits to New Hampshire of continued participation in ISO New
25 England? What opportunities exist to improve such outcomes should New Hampshire continue to
26 participate in ISO New England?

27 (g) What impediments to ISO New England withdrawal exist as the result of federal
28 law, state law, or other legal obligations?

29 (h) How can a regional wholesale electricity market balance differing state policy goals
30 while ensuring just and reasonable outcomes for New Hampshire utility customers?

31 (i) What changes to existing ISO New England tariffs would be necessary in order to
32 allow New Hampshire to withdraw from ISO New England?

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1 (j) What obligations would New Hampshire, and entities operating in New Hampshire,
2 incur under the Federal Power Act if New Hampshire were to withdraw from ISO New England?

3 (k) What alternative regulatory structures, beyond reliance on a regional transmission
4 organization like ISO New England, should New Hampshire consider to assure that New Hampshire
5 electric customers receive safe and reliable service at the lowest possible cost?

6 (l) Is the governance of ISO New England, including its board of directors as well as its
7 stakeholder advisory body NEPOOL, sufficiently accountable to the public and adequate to assure
8 that ISO New England is operated in the public interest?

9 (m) When operating independently of ISO-New England, what restrictions would be
10 placed on the state by the Federal Power Act or principles of federalism? What powers are beyond
11 the state's purview?

12 (n) What alternative regulatory structures could the state explore that would better
13 allow it to serve reliable, affordable electricity to its citizens?

14 II. The report of answers shall be provided to the senate and house committees responsible
15 for energy policy within one year of its passage.

16 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.